

# NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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***For Immediate Release***

**JULY 16, 2004**

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on July 14, 2004, **STEVEN TODD TAYLOR**, age 32, of West Salem, Illinois, pleaded guilty to a one-count Information in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois.

The Information to which TAYLOR pleaded guilty charged that: on or about April 12, 2004, in Richland and Edwards Counties, TAYLOR possessed a firearm after having previously been convicted of a felony under the laws of the State of Illinois, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 922(g)(1) and 924(e). The Information also charged that the firearm possessed by TAYLOR had an altered or obliterated serial number.

TAYLOR faces up to 10 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and a term of up to three years of supervised release. Sentencing is set for October 21, 2004, in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Richland County Sheriff's Office and the Illinois State Police. The Edwards County States Attorney's Office also has assisted throughout the investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George Norwood.